

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1761**

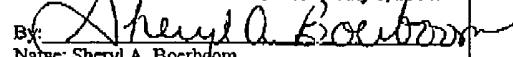
S/N 10/043,827

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	SWART ET AL.	Examiner:	D. BECKER
Serial No.:	10/043,827	Group Art Unit:	1761
Filed:	JANUARY 11, 2002	Docket No.:	163.1386USU1
Confirmation No.:	7890	Customer No.:	23552
Title:	METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR REDUCING MICROBIAL BURDEN ON A FOOD PRODUCT		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):
I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 8, 2004.

By: 
Name: Sheryl A. Boerboom

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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OFFICIAL

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 6, 2004 and Advisory Action mailed June 28, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks and arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.